GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:308
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2008
BAN ON COOKING ON THE PLATFORMS
Singh Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways issued instructions to stop cooking on the platforms of A, B and C categories of railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether IRCTC Ltd. had also issued instructions for making the platforms free from cooking;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the status of compliance of these instructions at all the platforms of A, B and C categories of railway stations ;

(f) whether instances of non-compliance/violation of these instructions have come to the notice of the Railways; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Railways thereon ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS(SHRI LALU PRASAD)

(a) to (g) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 308 BY SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 20.03.2008 REGARDING BAN ON COOKING ON THE PLATFORMS

(a) and (b) : As per present policy, there should be no cooking on platforms at suburban stations and for other stations, there should be an attempt to discontinue cooking on stalls and trolleys on the platforms, except for making tea. All cooking should be done in the main kitchen.

(c) to (e) : Yes, Sir. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) have conveyed Board's instructions to their zonal offices for making platforms cooking free. IRCTC have decided that in all future catering tenders, an enabling clause would be incorporated to make all the platforms and passenger area free from cooking. The licensee will be required to make its own arrangements and infrastructure for cooking/deep frying elsewhere. Only power based cooing and heating equipment may be permitted at such kiosks/stalls.

(f) and (g): Action like counseling, warning, imposing of penalty, closure of stall/kiosk for specific period and termination of licence etc. is taken whenever complaints of cooking on platforms are substantiated.